

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is an annual statewide telephone survey of adults developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and administered by the New York State Department of Health. The BRFSS is designed to provide information on behaviors, risk factors, and utilization of preventive services related to the leading causes of chronic and infectious diseases, disability, injury, and death among the noninstitutionalized, civilian population aged 18 years and older.

High Blood Pressure and High Blood Cholesterol New York State Adults 2005

Introduction

High blood pressure increases the risk for a number of diseases, including congestive heart failure, kidney failure, heart attack, and stroke.

High blood cholesterol is a major risk factor for heart disease and stroke. Lowering high blood cholesterol levels will decrease the incidence of coronary heart disease and decrease mortality.

BRFSS Questions

High blood pressure

1. *Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that you have high blood pressure?*

[If “yes”]

2. *Are you currently taking medicine for your high blood pressure?*

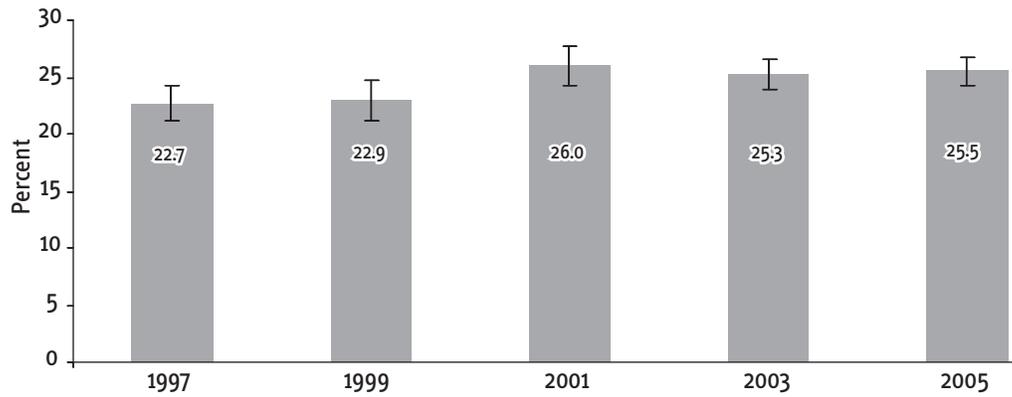
High blood cholesterol

1. *Blood cholesterol is a fatty substance found in the blood. Have you ever had your blood cholesterol checked?*

[If “yes”]

2. *About how long has it been since you last had your blood cholesterol checked?*
3. *Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that your blood cholesterol is high?*

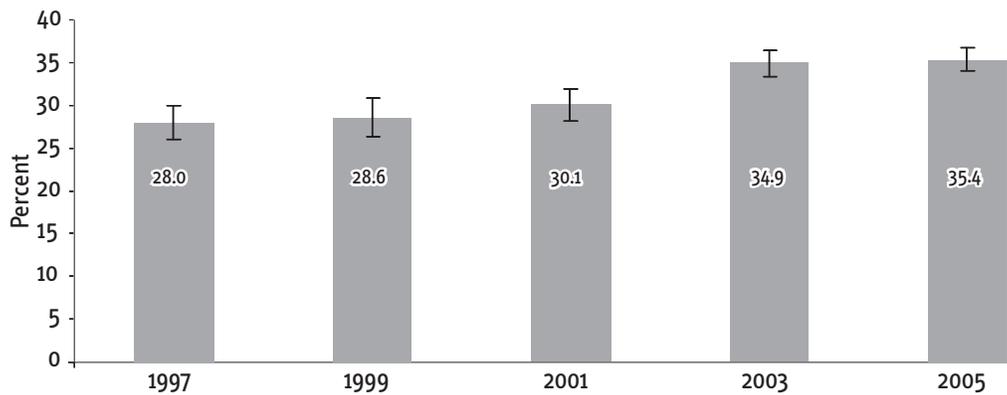
High blood pressure* among New York State adults, by BRFSS survey year



* Those ever told by doctor, nurse, or other health professional that had high blood pressure.

Note: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

High blood cholesterol* among New York State adults, by BRFSS survey year



* Those who ever had blood cholesterol checked.

Note: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Blood pressure and blood cholesterol screening and control among New York State adults:^a 2005 BRFSS

	Blood pressure				Blood cholesterol			
	High blood pressure [n=7,781]		Taking medication ^b		High cholesterol ^c [n=6,617]		Checked within past 5 years	
	% ^d	95% CI ^d	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Total New York State (NYS)	25.5	24.3-26.7	79.2	76.8-81.6	35.4	34.0-36.9	77.7	76.3-79.1
Sex								
Male	25.4	23.5-27.4	73.6	69.5-77.7	37.4	35.0-39.8	73.8	71.4-76.3
Female	25.6	24.1-27.1	84.2	81.7-86.7	33.8	32.1-35.5	81.2	79.6-82.7
Age (years)								
18-24	5.8	2.5-9.0	--	--	13.0	6.4-19.6	41.6	34.9-48.3
25-34	7.8	5.9-9.6	--	--	15.4	12.0-18.8	65.9	62.3-69.6
35-44	14.0	11.9-16.0	50.6	42.6-58.6	28.8	25.8-31.8	78.2	75.6-80.8
45-54	27.1	24.3-29.9	78.1	73.5-82.8	40.4	37.3-43.5	83.7	81.3-86.2
55-64	43.1	39.8-46.4	88.3	85.0-91.5	48.7	45.4-52.1	93.0	91.3-94.6
≥ 65	56.0	53.2-58.8	94.6	92.7-96.6	49.6	46.6-52.5	93.7	92.1-95.3
Race/ethnicity								
White non-Hispanic	25.7	24.5-27.0	82.0	79.6-84.3	36.8	35.3-38.3	81.5	80.1-83.0
Black non-Hispanic	34.0	29.8-38.1	81.3	74.8-87.8	33.9	29.4-38.4	79.6	75.5-83.6
Hispanic	20.1	16.5-23.7	66.6	56.9-76.3	35.2	29.9-40.4	63.8	59.0-68.6
Other non-Hispanic	23.8	19.8-28.8	74.2	64.4-84.0	29.5	23.8-35.2	75.4	69.7-81.0
Annual household income								
< \$15,000	34.8	30.2-39.2	77.6	70.8-84.4	44.3	39.0-49.6	64.7	59.3-70.1
\$15,000-\$24,999	29.0	25.6-32.5	78.1	71.3-84.9	38.0	33.9-42.2	68.4	64.0-72.8
\$25,000-\$34,999	27.9	23.8-32.0	79.1	72.5-85.7	36.3	31.7-41.0	74.9	70.3-79.6
\$35,000-\$49,999	24.7	21.6-27.8	82.5	77.4-87.6	36.0	32.0-40.0	81.0	77.8-84.3
\$50,000-\$74,999	21.4	18.7-24.2	80.4	74.6-86.2	31.5	28.2-34.9	84.8	82.0-87.7
≥ \$75,000	19.0	16.9-21.1	77.5	72.3-82.7	32.9	30.3-35.5	86.5	84.3-88.7
Missing ^e	29.5	25.9-33.1	80.2	73.2-87.2	35.9	31.8-39.9	73.4	69.2-77.6
Educational attainment								
Less than high school	33.2	28.5-37.9	81.3	75.4-87.2	40.2	34.3-46.1	63.6	57.8-69.3
High school or GED	30.0	27.6-32.4	79.3	74.2-83.9	39.1	36.3-41.8	75.3	72.6-78.1
Some post-high school	24.2	21.7-26.6	75.6	70.5-80.8	36.1	33.1-39.0	78.0	75.0-81.0
College graduate	20.6	18.8-22.3	80.8	77.0-84.6	31.4	29.3-33.5	83.9	82.1-85.7
Disability^f								
Yes	43.2	40.2-46.2	82.0	77.7-86.2	46.3	43.1-49.5	84.5	82.0-87.1
No	21.6	20.3-22.9	77.7	74.7-80.6	32.8	31.2-34.4	76.5	74.9-78.1
Region								
New York City (NYC)	23.4	21.3-25.6	75.7	70.9-80.4	32.4	29.8-35.0	76.9	74.4-79.3
NYS exclusive of NYC	26.7	25.3-28.2	81.0	78.3-83.7	37.2	35.5-38.8	78.2	76.4-79.9

^a Rows with less than 50 observations and rows that contain a confidence interval with a half-width of greater than 10 have been suppressed.

^b If ever told by doctor, nurse, or other health professional that had high blood pressure.

^c If ever had blood cholesterol checked, and ever told by doctor, nurse or other health professional that blood cholesterol was high.

^d % = weighted percentage; CI = confidence interval.

^e "Missing" category included because more than 10% of the sample did not report income.

^f All respondents who report activity limitations due to physical, mental, or emotional problems OR have health problems that require the use of special equipment.

Copies may be obtained by contacting:

BRFSS Coordinator
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Chronic Disease, Epidemiology and Surveillance
Empire State Plaza, Rm. 565, Corning Tower
Albany, NY 12237-0679

or by phone or electronic mail:
(518) 473-0673 or
BRFSS@health.state.ny.us or
www.health.state.ny.us

State of New York
Eliot Spitzer, Governor
Department of Health
Richard F. Daines, M.D., Commissioner
